

OPC BULLETIN



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From the Clubs

WASHINGTON — Warren Rogers, long-time *New York Herald Tribune* Washington correspondent, heads the *Trib* Washington Bureau, with offices in the National Press Building.

The Press Building newsstand reported a brisk sale of the 25¢, Vol. 1, issue on Jan. 9.

* * *
Allen Cromley, *Oklahoma City Times* Washington Bureau Chief, elected to head the 50-member Gridiron Club for 1978.

Frank Aukofer, *Milwaukee Journal* Washington correspondent, was elected president of the National Press Club, succeeding Robert Ferrell, McGraw-Hill World News Bureau Chief.

Other officers to be inaugurated on Feb. 5, are: vice president, Arthur Wiese, *Houston Post*; secretary, William J. Coughlin, *Coal Daily*; treasurer, Casey Crawford, *Healthcare*; financial secretary, John Barton, UPI; and governors: Seth Payne, McGraw-Hill; Tom Stewart, Reuters; and Frank Kane, *Toledo Blade*.

* * *
Two White House press staffers have departed. Walter Duka, assistant press secretary, is now assistant postmaster general for communications, and William Drummond, returned to the *Los Angeles Times* Washington Bureau.

* * *
Several hundred people offered good wished to CBS commentator Eric Severeid on his retirement from daily news commentary over CBS.

Among the familiar faces on CBS news present were Walter Cronkite, Dan Rather, Roger Mudd, Bruce Morton, NBC David Brinkley, Vice President Mondale, and Chief Justice Warren Berger.

CBS Board Chairman William S. Paley presented Severeid with an 1890 typewriter calling him a "legend in his lifetime."

* * *
The third National Press Club book fair was a huge success with 213 books on exhibit. The majority of the authors were present to autograph their books.

Joe Newman, member of Library Committee which sponsored the Fair and director of U.S. News Book section, had three authors in the Club dining room. Their books were *Teach your Wife How to be a Widow*, and Catherine Crook de Camp's *Teach your Child to Manage Money*.

Betty Wason who helped to start the Book Fair three years ago and patterned it after the OPC Book Fair, spent endless hours putting the 1977 event together.

Ruth Hagy Brod, agent for "Fish-bait Miller," memoris of the U.S. House of Representatives, written by Frances Spatz Leighton, was down from the Big Apple; stated she was signing a paperback book contract soon.

Victor Lasky autographed his *It Didn't Start With Watergate* and *JFK: the Man and the Myth*.

Other authors present were Art Buchwald, *Down the Seine and Up the Potomac*, AP's Frank Cormier, autographing his *LBJ, the Way He Was*, Allen Drury with his two new books, *Anna Hastings*, and *Return to Thebas*.

Buying books were Matt Gordon, Joe Newman and *Jessie Stearns*.

Jefferson Patterson, retired diplomat, and husband of Mary Marvin Breckinridge Patterson, died in November.

"I wouldn't have missed it, but the trip was no joy ride," remarked *U.S. News* Editor Marvin Stone, upon the return on Jan. 6, from a nine-day sweep

(Continued on page 2)

Felker says that Esquire will follow Gingrich's model

"Living with the spirit of the founding editor," Arnold Gingrich, Clay Felker, the new President-Editor of *Esquire*, hopes to produce a magazine not just full of dreams, but useful and of service to men.

He regaled a capacity crowd at the January 11 "Talking Shop" lunch with the "ups and downs" of the past, his projections of success for the new fortnightly *Esquire*. The first issue is due out February 14, 1978—650,000 copies aimed at the over-\$20,000-a-year male entrepreneur, professional, manager.

This is "the most exciting, tumultuous period in my life," Felker declared, a business of living by wits, a "tenuous" existence he wouldn't trade.

His inspiration for the revamped *Esquire* continues to be Gingrich, "one of the great unacclaimed editors of all time," who invented a new kind of magazine; "spawned" a whole industry of men's magazines, often "a bad mutation," yet a marvelous invention.

Gingrich's formula that a man's magazine "reflect men's interests" is still fresh, and Felker's inspiration. Noticeably nervous about how the first issue will stand up — "I have never put out a good first issue of anything" — he still predicts success. This editor who put his stamp on *New York, New Times*, *The Village Voice*, acknowledged that it is an experiment; that readers may get restless at first, and abandon the new *Esquire*. "You have to wander until the combination is right." Yet even with creeping publishing costs — postage up 20 percent over last year, stock 12-15 percent higher, inflation of six-seven-eight percent — Felker insists the new *Esquire* will break even in two to three years. The present *Esquire* lost a million dollars in the last two years.

He is particularly encouraged by the close equal partnership he enjoys in his new position with the British Lord Northcliff newspaper family. Contrary to unhappy experience with *New York*, plagued by investment bankers who wanted their money out and spoiled rich kids who had others waiting on them, he is optimistic. The explosion of foreign investment in U.S. publishing-British, French, German, Australian — is healthy; it shows faith in the free enterprise system as contrasted to the ideologically oriented socialist system. "The great American market has led foreign investors to come here."

Key to the new *Esquire's* success will be the writers. Felker acknowledges spending a major part of his time finding new talent to keep the magazine fresh. He fears outside book offers with 30,000 new titles annually, where writers pick up "huge amounts of money," will drain *Esquire*, but hopes for the best.

He advised writers in the OPC audience of key themes — health, finance, compensation, grooming, behavior pieces, plus profiles and short stories. "*Esquire* will continue the heritage of great fiction" in a period of drought. Query letters should shape the point of view in no more than a page, with the initial sentence giving the major theme. Pay is from \$750-\$2000. "Write as well as possible."

The question-and-answer period was dominated by a dialog on the effect of the women's movement on men's magazines, specifically *Esquire*. "The most dramatic change is women in the

(Continued on page 2)

Dick Cavett set for February 9 Shop Talk; NBC's Jane Pauley and Lester Crystal follow

Can an Ivy League intellectual find happiness working on the tube?

Well, if he is a Yale graduate with a good sense of humor and the network is Public Broadcasting Service, the answer is "yes."

How this all came to pass will be the subject of the next *Larry Stessin* and *Gloria Zukerman* "Shop Talk" on the evening of Thursday, February 9. As we go to press, all systems are "go" to have Dick Cavett as our guest. But last-minute taping schedules could interfere, so we suggest confirming the date with Mary Novick (687-2430). The cocktails and conversation will begin at 5:30 pm at the club (Hotel Biltmore, 19th floor, North elevators). WNYC will broadcast the speech live.

Television personality, comedian, actor and writer, Cavett is a 1958 product of Yale University where he majored in English and drama. He started as a nightclub comedian playing such celebrated spots as the hungry i, Mister Kelly's and Bon Soir. Exactly ten years after his graduation, he made his debut as host of a morning TV talk show. Within a year, he was shifted into an evening slot and then to a

late-night show in 1970. During this incarnation, he established his reputation as an urbane, witty host. Among his guests were Katherine Hepburn, Orsen Welles, Laurence Oliver and the late Noel Coward.

The new Dick Cavett Show premiered on October 10. It is co-produced by WNET/Channel 13 and Daphne Productions. Already tongues are wagging as a result of his open, free wheeling style of interviewing that have made viewers blush. Remember the Sophia Loren/Marcello Mastroianni interview? But being aired in the post 11 pm adult viewing time, perhaps there is a strong argument in his favor. He will explain this on February 9th.

As an early morning broadcaster, our following guest must always be circumspect and proper. Hostess of NBC's "Today" morningcast, Jane Pauley will address a special "Shop Talk" luncheon group on Thursday, February 23 on what it has been like replacing Barbara Walters. And slipping into March, NBC News President Lester Crystal will join us on Wednesday, March 8. He's Pauley's new boss.

TV or not TV, that is a question.

—Chas. Schreiber

Crime writing a joke, claims crusader Messick

Investigative reporter Hank Messick, crusader against organized crime for the past 18 years and author of some 17 books on the subject, held an informal shop talk at the OPC lounge on January 9, 1978.

Messick began his career as a college professor of journalism and proceeded to become a prize-winning journalist for the *Louisville Courier Journal* and *Miami Herald*, a researcher on organized crime under two Ford Foundation grants, consultant to investigating agencies in the U.S.A. and abroad, columnist on crime for the *Miami Beach Sun*, and contributor of articles for *The Nation*, *Rolling Stone*, and other magazines. His book *Lansky* was responsible for Meyer Lansky's deportation from Israel to the U.S. after it was published there. Lansky is still free, says Messick, who sees Lansky walking his dog on Miami Beach every day.

Messick's books are "intended to expose, not entertain," but he feels that writing about crime is "just a joke." In our present economic system it can't be stamped out, but he thinks it can be better controlled. Actually, our economic system helps it along, and organized crime is the price we pay

(Continued on page 2)

Who Loves Ya, Baby? The OPC!!!

St. Valentine's Day is the day to let it all hang out. The day to honor new members (herein defined as those of us who joined the Club after June, 1976) and to take the leash off our time-honored colleagues.

So come one, come all, to the Club's St. Valentine's Day party on Tuesday, February 14, at 6 p.m. Entertainment guaranteed.

—Ruth Biemiller
Hospitality Chair

NEW MEMBERS

Active Non-Resident

Paul Heffernan
Dorothy M. Zinzow

Associate Non-Resident

Adelaide Bry

Associate Resident

William H. Carr

Active Resident

Charles Spiegel

Active Overseas

Young Sick Kim

CALENDAR

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 8:00 p.m. — Music Night. Kate Hurney, coloratura soprano; Robert Guarino, tenor; Clive Amor, violinist; accompanied by Van Zandt Ellis.

Thursday, Feb. 9, 5:30 p.m. — Talking Shop with Dick Cavett.

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. — St. Valentine's Day Party honoring new members.

Thursday, Feb. 23, 12 noon, cocktails; 12:30, luncheon — Talking Shop Luncheon. Guest, Jane Pauley, NBC's Today Show Hostess.

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 5:30-7:00 p.m. — "Publish, Don't Perish. What do publishers look for?" A professional seminar, featuring a gamut of publishers and editors. Moderated by Anita Diamant Berke. Arranged by Ruth Biemiller.

Tuesday, March 7, 5:30 p.m. — Remagen Reunion, 33rd anniversary of the U.S. capture of Remagen Bridge. MC: *Lindsey Nelson*, Remagen veteran and Met's Sportscenter. All WWII correspondents and PIOs invited. Details, next issue.

Wednesday, March 8, 12 noon, cocktails; 12:30, luncheon — Talking Shop Luncheon. Guest, Lester Crystal, President, NBC News.

RESERVATIONS: Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

Clubs, continued

through seven nations with President Carter.

The President stated as he left the helicopter on the White House south lawn, "I learned a lot."

Steve Bell, ABC correspondent, asked, "what were the goals of the trip?"

Bob Pierpoint, CBS News, stated the 18,000-mile trip meeting eight heads of state, visiting seven nations — Poland, Iran, India, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, France and Belgium, crossing six time zones, was a marathon instead of a mission.

Other correspondents among the 170 persons occupying two press planes included AP Frank Cormier, dean of White House correspondents; Ralph Harris, Reuters; Ted Knap, Scripps-Howard; Ted Koppel, ABC; Henry Luce, *Time*; Jack Nelson, *Los Angeles Times*; Pierre Sallinger, *L'Espresso*; Helen Thomas, UPI; Barbara Walters, ABC and Jim Wieghart, *NY Daily News*.

—*Jessie Stearns*

BUENOS AIRES. — President Augusto Pinochet, of Chile is so ecstatic with his referendum victory that he will harden Chile's position vis-a-vis Argentina on Great Britain's arbitration decision over the Beagle Channel dispute between the two South American countries. Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth favored Chile, and Argentina is ready to reject the decision. Chile already is the occupant of the three small islands involved in the dispute and force would be the only way left to modify the situation.

Several American correspondents based in Buenos Aires went to Santiago for the Chilean plebiscite, including *NY Times* Juan de Onis, and David Dow, CBS, and Frank Manitzas, NBC.

At the Associated Press, Richard Boudreaux replaced Alfonso Chardy as news editor. For *Time* magazine, Lee Grigg came from Nairobi, Kenya.

—*E. Rojas-Vela*

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Obituary

Frazier Dickson, veteran New York newspaper man and OPC member, died January 20 at New York Hospital after a long illness. He was 72. Born in Dickey, Georgia, he was reared and educated in Tennessee, where he started his newspaper career in the late twenties.

Dickson moved to New York in the early thirties and served on several newspapers, chiefly as copy editor. He also worked on newspapers in various parts of the country.

In New York, he was a staffer on the old *Evening Journal*; *Outdoor Life Magazine*; *Journal American*; *The Times*; *Herald Tribune*; *World Journal Tribune* and *Daily News*. He was very active in the New York Newspaper Guild in the thirties and helped organize the local chapter.

He was a founder and chairman of the Her-Trib Guild unit for years, until 1967 when the newspaper folded. He was also that newspaper's copy editor.

Early in his newspaper career, Dickson worked on such Knoxville newspapers as *The Sentinel*; *Free Press*; *News*; *News-Sentinel*; also the *Murfreesboro* (Tenn.) *News-Banner*; the *Montgomery* (Ala.) *Advertiser*; the *Philadelphia Record*; the *Memphis Evening Appeal*; and the *Philadelphia Evening Ledger*.

In 1953, he went to Chicago to work as copy editor on the *Chicago Tribune* and returned to New York in 1956 to join the *Her-Trib*.

Dickson was the *Her-Trib* delegate to the 31st International Convention of the American Newspaper Guild in Long Beach, Calif. in July, 1964. He was a member of the Overseas Press Club for many years, also of the Elbeetian Legion, composed of members of the Lone Scouts of America Alumni, an international organization.

Dickson is survived by his wife Kathryn, public relations assistant at New York Hospital and former New York newspaperwoman — one daughter, Mrs. Marilyn Cauthorn of Tampa, Fla.; three sisters; one brother, and several nieces and nephews.

Messick cont'd.

for the free enterprise system. "But," he added, "we could not have organized crime without corrupt police and politicians."

Messick has no good word for newspaper editors who, he says, prefer to be ignorant about the facts of crime and the people who are involved in it. "If you don't know about something, you can't be blamed for not publishing the story. Crime is a big, important industry and the public doesn't want to do anything about it. It's fun to read about, and readers don't know enough about crime to know true from false."

Casino gambling will spread to New York City, and Miami Beach will inevitably get it, too, Messick believes. The flow of cash makes it attractive, and hard to control. But, as gambling becomes more available, it will cease to be an attraction and something else will take its place. Four or five years ago, he tried to sell a book on legalized gambling but no one wanted to hear the facts.

Messick declared that the name *Cosa Nostra* is nothing but a public relations gimmick. "No single ethnic group has a monopoly on crime. All ethnic groups are involved. But there are almost no WASP's (white Anglo-Saxon Protestants) in major league crime."

Messick is now collaborating with his 17th or 18th book *The Bermuda Triangle of Casino Gambling: Las Vegas, New Jersey and Miami, Florida*. Messick's newest book *The Politics of Prosecution* will go on sale in March. Published by Greene Hill, it deals with Otto Kerner and politics in Chicago's Cook County.

Messick says he has a good title for a book he hopes to write someday — *Sex in Texas and the Internal Revenue*. —*Rosalind Moore*

WHO, WHAT, WHERE

By GRACE NAISMITH

HONOR: **Ephraim R. Gomberg** of Palm Springs, California, has been named Honorary Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. Gomberg will be cited for his "many contributions to the field of mental health" at the annual meeting of the Association on May 8th in Atlanta. For the past several years, he has served as legal consultant to the Association's Committee on Psychiatry and the Law.

NEW LOOK: **J. Gordon Fraser**, ex-NBC war correspondent and "Monitor" producer, has been lured from retirement to teach communication at Fla. Tech. Univ., Orlando. Writes **Paul Alley** from Orlando, "With **John Wilhelm** (Ohio) and **John Luter** (Hawaii) showing the way, colleges are finding that experience provides the best teachers."

PUBLISHING: **George Burns**, speech-writer for Citibank, has an article coming up in the March *Travel & Leisure*. Subject: the wonders of private-piloting a light plane on vacation. Burns based the story on his flight around the Out Islands of the Bahamas in a Rockwell Commander 114, a single-engine, four-seat, 175 mile-an-hour marvel, he says, "with \$15,000 worth of sophisticated radio equipment, much of which I figured out how to work." ... An essay by **Larry Stessin** has been selected by Newberry House (publishers of scholarly books and journals) for a collection called "Towards Internationalism: Readings in Cross-Cultural Communications." Larry's essay, "Culture Shock and the American Businessman Overseas" was originally published in the U.S. State Department's journal, "International and Cultural Exchange." ... A recently syndicated article from Bucharest by **Martin A. Bursten** is titled "Rumania's Youth Potion — Cure or Quackery?" Bursten lives in Pompano Beach, Fla. ... **Dick Hyman's** "Crazy Laws," a paperback version of his current "Trenton Pickle Ordinance" (Stephen Greene Press) will be released in March. It is

Dick's 16th book. His feature on the ludicrous laws of this country has been sustained in books, magazines and newspapers for more than 40 years. Scholastic will publish "Crazy Laws." **Mary Tannenbaum's** 8-part series of essays, "Trip to Taiwan," has been published twice in Taiwan: first in the English-language *China News*, and subsequently in the Chinese-language *Daily News* ... **Col. Barney Oldfield** has January articles in *Westways*; *Variety* (its 72nd anniversary issue), and the *Armed Forces Journal*. The *Westways* article, "For Name's Sake," is all about why Barney is called Barney.

TRAVELING: **Andrew J. Valuchek**, special assistant to the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, spent the weekend, Jan. 6-8, in Budapest, as a member of the U.S. Delegation bringing the Crown of St. Stephen back to Hungary ... **Jim Trullinger** writes from Honolulu that he is on his way to Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, then on to Seoul, Korea, where he will visit with Dr. J.W.T. Jr., director of the Pearl S. Buck Foundation.

EXHIBIT: **Frances Kish** has a new show at the Kalarson Gallery, 415 E. 53 Street. Since her illness she has been painting with her left hand. The exhibit will feature paintings in watercolor, 1976 and oils in 1977-78. Frances will greet you personally on Feb. 5, but the show will continue all during Feb. from 12 to 5, Tuesdays through Sunday.

LETTER from **Clayton Willis** says he is not with Geico; he's just a stockholder, and is so listed on his calling card, on which he wrote me of his travels (Bulletin, 1/1/78). Clayton does his Willis News Service from Lexington, Ky. He says he "was an adviser to the Nixon and Ford Administrations," and the OPC Directory for 1966 says he has an award: "Letter of commendation from President L.B. Johnson (1964)."

LETTER

To the Editor:

According to *Time* (10-24-77), OPC's vice president, **Robin Moore**, is one of the "new Rhodesians" and an "ardent defender of the white Rhodesian cause, having purchased a house in Salisbury and cast himself in the role of "unofficial ambassador."

During my near quarter century membership in the OPC we have traditionally campaigned against press censorship everywhere. One wonders whether our vice president will challenge the Rhodesian government's current prohibition against any reporting on the war there, or filing anything, without the approval of all copy by government censors.

—*Marguerite Cartwright*

Felker cont'd.

work force," Felker declared, "47 million of them now, or 41 percent of the total American work force." This growing enfranchised political force, "an economic power house," is more and more a challenge to men in the executive positions. "It won't stop, this area of conflict. *Esquire* will examine how to deal with the situation.

"It is a dramatic period. Men and women are biologically different, and this makes for different approach provoking a long and very confusing power struggle between men and women. It won't stop in our lifetime."

He expects women to read *Esquire* right along with men. He expects men to accept change in an intelligent way. "*Esquire* will be dealing with the way men and women really live together; the questions that grip their lives... I haven't seen a woman yet who wasn't genuinely interested in what men are talking about." —*Blythe Foote Finke*

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